

**ABSOLUTE RATING:** Good

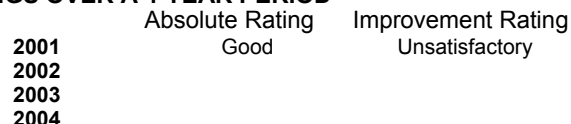
**IMPROVEMENT RATING:** Unsatisfactory

Number of Elementary schools with students like ours: 88.

The absolute ratings for those schools ranged from below average to excellent.

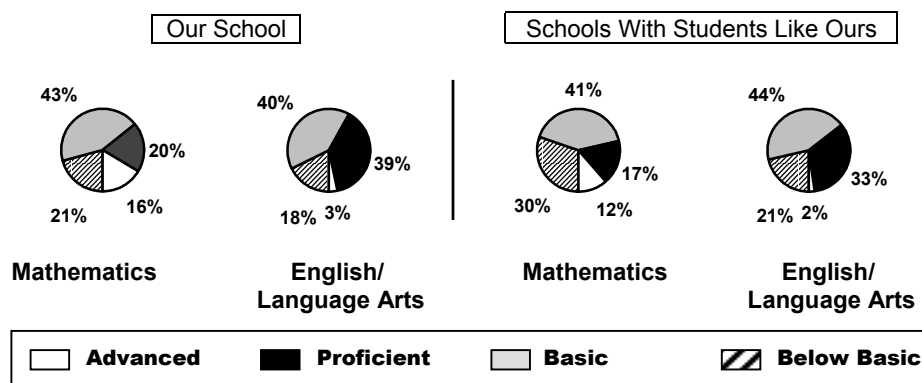
For improvement ratings, the range was from unsatisfactory to excellent.

## RATINGS OVER A 4-YEAR PERIOD



(Definitions of School Rating Terms on Page 4)

## PALMETTO ACHIEVEMENT CHALLENGE TESTS (PACT) RESULTS



## DEFINITIONS OF CRITICAL TERMS:

- Advanced** – Student performance exceeded expectations.
- Proficient** – Student performance met expectations.
- Basic** – Student performance met minimum performance expectations.
- Below Basic** – Student performance did not meet minimum performance expectations.

Science scores are to be reported on the 2004 School Report Card. Social studies scores are to be reported on the 2005 School Report Card.

PERCENT OF STUDENTS SCORING BASIC OR ABOVE ON THE PACT				
Student Group	English/ Language Arts	Math	Science	Social Studies
<b>All students (n=215)</b>	82.3	79.1	N/A	N/A
Students with disabilities other than Speech (n=27)	N/A	N/A		
Students without disabilities (n=188)	87.2	80.9		
<b>Gender</b>				
Male (n=96)	79.2	79.2		
Female (n=119)	84.9	79		
<b>Ethnic Group</b>				
African American (n=104)	69.2	70.2		
Hispanic (n=6)	N/A	N/A		
White (n=103)	94.2	86.4		
Other (n=1)	N/A	N/A		
<b>Lunch Status Group</b>				
Free/reduced-price Lunch (n=108)	73.1	71.3		
Pay for lunch (n=107)	91.6	86.9		

## SCHOOL PROFILE

### INDICATORS OF SCHOOL PERFORMANCE

SCHOOL	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
• Dollars spent per student	\$6,428	N/A	\$5,091	\$5,347
• Prime instructional time	89.5%	Down from 90.2%	90%	90.2%
• Student-teacher ratio in core subjects	17.2 to 1	N/A	19 to 1	18.7 to 1
<b>STUDENTS (n=501)</b>				
• Attendance Rate	96.2%	Down from 96.6%	96.2%	96.2%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (ELA) off grade level	0%	N/A	4.3%	4.1%
• Students with disabilities other than speech taking PACT (math) off grade level	0%	N/A	3.1%	3.1%
• First graders who attended full day kindergarten	92.6%	Down from 93.6%	96.3%	96.3%
• Meeting grade 1 and 2 readiness standards	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
• Retention rate	5.8%	Down from 14.1%	3.4%	3.6%
<b>TEACHERS (n=41)</b>				
• Professional Development days per teacher	7.6 Days	Up from 6.6	7.5 Days	7.6 days
• Attendance Rate	94.4%	No change	95.1%	95.1%
• Teachers with advanced degrees	39%	Down from 41.5%	48.4%	47.7%
• Continuing contract teachers	90.2%	Up from 81%	82.5%	83.8%
• Teachers with out-of-field permits	4.9%	Up from 4.8%	0%	0.0%
• Teachers returning from the previous school year	90.7%	Up from 90.6%	87.8%	87.2%
• Average teacher salary	\$38,190	Up 4.2%	\$37,834	\$37,520

## SCHOOL FACTS

	Our School	Change From Last Year	Schools with Students like ours	Median Elementary School
<b>SCHOOL</b>				
• Percentage of expenditures spent on teacher salaries	65.8%	N/A	65.4%	65.3%
• Principal's years at the school	2	N/A	4.5	4.0
• Parents attending conferences	93.1%	N/A	98.4%	95.6%
• Opportunities in the arts	Good	N/A	Good	Good
<b>STUDENTS</b>				
• On academic plans	37.2%	Up from 31.2%	42.8%	43.1%
• On academic probation	0%	N/A	0%	0.0%
• Older than usual for grade	3.8%	Up from 3.3%	1.1%	1.1%
• Suspended or expelled	1	N/A	1	1
• Gifted and talented	19.6%	Up from 11.5%	13.7%	11.5%
• With disabilities other than speech	14.5%	Up from 11.4%	9.3%	8.4%



## PRINCIPAL'S / SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT COUNCIL REPORT

The 2000-2001 school year was a very productive year for Merrywood Elementary School. The faculty, staff, parents, and students completed a five-year school-renewal plan. Merrywood Elementary also renewed its ten-year accreditation with the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The self-study process enabled us to examine our mission and goals and to develop a plan for increasing student achievement.

The mission of Merrywood Elementary School is to educate all students for tomorrow's world by providing challenging learning experiences, encouraging responsible and caring citizenship, and nurturing the development and potential of each child.

We are proud of the fact that we continue to make progress in reducing class size. We are also excited about the implementation of the Open Court Reading Program in kindergarten and first grade. We will be expanding that program to second grade next year. Our second grade teachers received training in "Thinking Maps", and next year third, fourth, and fifth grade teachers will receive "Thinking Maps" training.

Our PTO has been very active and sponsored "Donuts for Dad", "Muffins for Mom", "Santa's Shop", a carnival, and the "Best of the Best" activities for students. The PTO also purchased the book, The Moonflower, for every homeroom. After reading the book, homeroom classes participated in a wide variety of math, science, literature, and writing activities related to the book. In addition to growing the moonflower seeds, the school was decorated with a "moonflower vine" that wound its way through the student activities on display.

We believe that with our team of students, parents, faculty and staff working together, we will be successful in our efforts to provide challenging learning experiences to develop the potential of each child.

Patricia D. Vahjen, Principal

### EVALUATIONS BY TEACHERS AND STUDENTS

Percent	Teachers	Students	Parents
Satisfied with learning environment	100.0	93.1	(Avail. 2002)
Satisfied with social and physical environment	97.4	96.6	
Satisfied with home-school relations	84.2	96.6	

### DEFINITIONS OF SCHOOL RATING TERMS

**Excellent** – School performance substantially exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Good** – School performance exceeds the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Average** – School performance meets the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Below Average** – School is in jeopardy of not meeting the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

**Unsatisfactory** – School performance fails to meet the standards for progress toward the 2010 SC Performance Goal.

2450012

Merrywood Elementary  
100 Merrywood Road  
Greenwood, SC 29649

Grades PK-5 Elementary School

Enrollment: 501 Students

#### Principal

Mrs. Patricia Vahjen 864-941-5700

#### Superintendent

Dr. William Steed 864-941-5400

#### Board Chair

Dr. W.T. Holmes 864-223-4692

## THE STATE OF SOUTH CAROLINA

Annual School  
Report Card

2001

School Grade:  
Average

#### South Carolina Performance Goal:

By 2010, South Carolina's student achievement will be ranked in the top half of the states nationally. To achieve this goal, we must become one of the five fastest improving systems in the country.

For more information, visit our website at  
[www.myschools.com](http://www.myschools.com)